

Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1074, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to waive the 24-month waiting period for medicare coverage of individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and to provide medicare coverage of drugs and biologicals used for the treatment of ALS or for the alleviation of symptoms relating to ALS.

S. 1130

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1130, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to liability of motor vehicle rental or leasing companies for the negligent operation of rented or leased motor vehicles.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 27

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of Senate Joint Resolution 27, A joint resolution disapproving the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the products of the People's Republic of China.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 28

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 28, a joint resolution disapproving the extension of the waiver authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Vietnam.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 9

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 9, a concurrent resolution calling for a United States effort to end restrictions on the freedoms and human rights of the enclaved people in the occupied area of Cyprus.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 22

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 22, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to promoting coverage of individuals under long-term care insurance.

SENATE RESOLUTION 59

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS), and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 59, a resolution designating both July 2, 1999, and July 2, 2000, as "National Literacy Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 81

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 81, a resolution designating the year of 1999 as "The Year of Safe Drinking Water" and com-

memorating the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

SENATE RESOLUTION 92

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 92, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that funding for prostate cancer research should be increased substantially.

SENATE RESOLUTION 96

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 96, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding a peaceful process of self-determination in East Timor, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 113—TO AMEND THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE TO REQUIRE THAT THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES BE RECITED AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE DAILY SESSION OF THE SENATE

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. HELMS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 113

Whereas the Flag of the United States of America is our Nation's most revered and preeminent symbol;

Whereas the Flag of the United States of America is recognized and respected throughout the world as a symbol of democracy, freedom, and human rights;

Whereas, in the words of the Chief Justice of the United States, the Flag of the United States of America "in times of national crisis, inspires and motivates the average citizen to make personal sacrifices in order to achieve societal goals of overriding importance . . . and serves as a reminder of the paramount importance of pursuing the ideals that characterize our society";

Whereas the House of Representatives of the United States has opened each of its daily sessions with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America since 1988; and

Whereas opening each of the daily sessions of the Senate of the United States with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States would demonstrate reverence for the Flag and serve as a daily reminder to all Senators of the ideals that it represents: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That paragraph 1(a) of rule IV of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by inserting after "prayer by the Chaplain" the following: "and after the Presiding Officer leads the Senate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States".

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, the resolution that I am submitting today provides that immediately following the prayer such as we just heard this morning by Chaplain Ogilvie, at the beginning of each daily session of the Senate, the Presiding Officer of the Senate would lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States.

I am pleased and honored that the chairman of the Rules Committee, Sen-

ator MCCONNELL, as well as Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator HELMS, an Senator LOTT, have joined me as original cosponsors of this resolution.

The flag of the United States is our most revered and preeminent symbol, and the flag is recognized and respected throughout the world as a symbol of democracy, freedom, and human rights. As you know, the House of Representatives has such a flag salute in the morning at the beginning of each day. I think it is appropriate that the Senate follow suit. It is probably long overdue.

The Chief Justice of the United States, William Rehnquist, has written that the flag of the United States of America "in times of national crisis, inspires and motivates the average citizen to make personal sacrifices in order to achieve societal goals of overriding importance . . . and serves as a reminder of the paramount importance of pursuing the ideals that characterize our society."

Many Americans, including my father, have given their lives to protect freedom and democracy as symbolized by this flag. Our family was presented with a flag at the burial, as so many other families of veterans have also experienced. It means a great deal, and I think it is appropriate that we salute the flag every morning to start our business.

Since 1988, as I said, the House of Representatives has demonstrated its reverence and respect for the flag, and all of the ideals for which it stands, by opening its morning session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

I wish to give credit to a constituent of mine. I would like to take credit for the idea—perhaps I should have thought of it—but it came from Rebecca Stewart of Enfield, NH, who recently contacted my office and suggested that the Senate should do what the House does—open each session with the Pledge of Allegiance. I thought that was a great idea and contacted several members of the Senate Rules Committee to get a sense of the level of support on that committee for the idea, and I was pleased and delighted by the response from Rules.

The result then is the resolution I am submitting today. I might also in conclusion point out that Monday, June 14, is Flag Day. It would be a great tribute if we could get this resolution to the floor and pass it sometime on or before Monday, June 14. We do have time this week to do that. It is my hope we can move this legislation out of Rules quickly and bring it to the floor. I understand Senator MCCONNELL will be in the Chamber to speak on this matter very shortly.

Mr. President, I trust that the Senate will see fit to promptly adopt this resolution. I hope that it will receive the unanimous support of my colleagues in the Senate.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the senior Senator from New Hampshire, Mr. BOB SMITH, introduced a rules

change which I, as chairman of the Rules Committee, am happy to cosponsor. I commend our colleague, Senator BOB SMITH, for an excellent and outstanding idea.

Since 1892, Americans have expressed their reverence for the flag of this Nation and all it represents by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge was first recited at the 1892 World's Fair to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America. Since that time, hundreds and thousands of civic organizations and schoolchildren have taken time before turning to their work to recite these moving words:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mr. President, I can remember as a schoolchild in Athens, Alabama, standing at my desk, placing my hand over my heart, fixing my eyes upon the flag, and reciting these eloquent words. I suspect many of our colleagues here in the Senate had the same experience in school as they were growing up.

Even at that early age, pledging allegiance to the flag encouraged me to think about the history and ideals of this Nation. It was an important ritual for schoolchildren then. It should be an important ritual for the Senate now.

Presently, we begin each day's business here in the Senate with a prayer. This solemn act reminds us of certain principles and values that we as a people hold dear. Similarly, daily recitation of the pledge would serve as an inspirational start to each legislative day.

The pledge is a time for reflecting on the inspiring history and ideals of liberty and freedom that the Stars and Stripes represents. Setting aside this time each day will serve to remind Americans of the venerated place the flag holds in our country and our culture.

Mr. President, among my most prized possessions is the American flag which honored, as he was laid to rest, my father's service to our Nation. That flag rests proudly on the marble mantel in my Senate office.

A clinical assessment of that flag would conclude that it is some mixture of cotton fabric, dyed red, white, and blue. But for me, it harkens back to the selfless patriotism of a father who fought for his Nation during World War II, a father who instilled in his son an awe and abiding respect for this great Nation we are all so fortunate to call home.

Old Glory has been a beacon of hope for over 200 years, a touchstone for patriotic Americans, and a source of comfort and pride for individuals at home and abroad. In the words of Senator Charles Sumner, "In a foreign land, the flag is companionship, and country itself, with all its endearments."

The flag is, without question, a powerful symbol the world over. For nearly

every American, it is the most powerful patriotic inspiration.

It is my distinct honor today to cosponsor this resolution as chairman of the Senate Rules Committee. I also want to commend my good friend from New Hampshire, Senator BOB SMITH, for an excellent idea and for his leadership on this issue. The Senate should promptly pass this resolution to begin every day in the Senate Chamber with the pledge of allegiance to our flag and to the Republic for which it stands, the Republic to which we have dedicated ourselves as Senators.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 38—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS SHOULD INCLUDE IN THE 2000 DECENNIAL CENSUS ALL CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES RESIDING ABROAD

Mr. ABRAHAM submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

S. CON. RES. 38

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS SHOULD INCLUDE IN THE 2000 DECENNIAL CENSUS ALL CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES RESIDING ABROAD.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Bureau of the Census has announced its intention to exclude more than 3,000,000 citizens of the United States living and working overseas from the 2000 decennial census because such citizens are not affiliated with the Federal Government.

(2) The Bureau of the Census has stated its desire to make the 2000 decennial census "the most accurate ever".

(3) Exports by the United States of goods, services, and expertise play a vital role in strengthening the economy of the United States—

(A) by creating jobs based in the United States; and

(B) by extending the influence of the United States around the globe.

(4) Citizens of the United States living and working overseas strengthen the economy of the United States—

(A) by purchasing and selling United States exports; and

(B) by creating business opportunities for United States companies and workers.

(5) Citizens of the United States living and working overseas play a key role in advancing the interests of the United States around the world as highly visible economic, political, and cultural ambassadors.

(6) In 1990, as a result of widespread bipartisan support in Congress, the Bureau of the Census enumerated all United States Government officials and other citizens of the United States affiliated with the Federal Government living and working overseas for the apportionment of representatives among the several States and for other purposes.

(7) In the 2000 decennial census, the Bureau of the Census again intends to so enumerate all such officials and other citizens of the United States.

(8) The Overseas Citizens Voting Rights Act of 1975 gave citizens of the United States residing abroad the right to vote by absentee ballot in any Federal election in the State in

which the citizen was last domiciled over 2 decades ago.

(9) Citizens of the United States who live and work overseas, but who are not affiliated with the Federal Government, vote in elections and pay taxes.

(10) Organizations that represent individuals and companies overseas, including both Republicans Abroad and Democrats Abroad, support the inclusion of all citizens of the United States residing abroad in the 2000 decennial census.

(11) The Internet facilitates easy maintenance of close contact with all citizens of the United States throughout the world.

(12) All citizens of the United States living and working overseas should be included in the 2000 decennial census.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Bureau of the Census should enumerate all citizens of the United States residing overseas in the 2000 decennial census; and

(2) legislation authorizing and appropriating the funds necessary to carry out such an enumeration should be enacted.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 114—DESIGNATING JUNE 22, 1999, AS "NATIONAL PEDIATRIC AIDS AWARENESS DAY"

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BOND, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ROBB, Mr. MACK, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CLELAND, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. DODD, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. FRIST, Mr. INOUE, Mr. GORTON, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. REID, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KERREY, Mr. CHAFEE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. REED, Mr. NICKLES, and Mr. KOHL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 114

Whereas acquired immune deficiency syndrome (referred to in this resolution as "AIDS") is the 7th leading cause of death for children in the United States;

Whereas approximately 15,000 children in the United States are currently infected with human immunodeficiency virus (referred to in this resolution as "HIV"), the virus that causes AIDS;

Whereas the number of children who have died from AIDS worldwide since the AIDS epidemic began has reached 2,700,000;

Whereas it is estimated that an additional 40,000,000 children will die from AIDS by the year 2020;

Whereas perinatal transmission of HIV from mother to child accounts for 91 percent of pediatric HIV cases;

Whereas studies have demonstrated that the maternal transmission of HIV to an infant decreased from 30 percent to less than 8 percent after therapeutic intervention was employed;

Whereas effective drug treatments have decreased the percentage of deaths from AIDS in the United States by 47 percent in both 1998 and 1999;